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Hon. 100-5082

"you are likely to be branded a Communist. I have seen the label of 'Red' used in an attempt to intimidate and silence those who will settle for no less than 100% equality. I am opposed to Truman's loyalty order for its victims have been mainly Negroes and Jews who fought discrimination...

I personally have no intention of letting the cry of 'Communism' sidetrack me from my goal of complete civil rights as guaranteed by the Constitution."

Speaking of "Anti-Communist hysteria" in his column of December 15, 1949, DAVIS states:

"As has been said by many staunch defenders of civil liberties, the idea is not merely to shut up Communists, but to silence anyone else who holds opinions contrary to those sanctioned by whoever is in an authoritative position.

"Since I am a member of a minority group that has traditionally been denied its civil rights in violation of the Constitution, I will support that part of the program of any group which aims at equality for all."

His column of January 12, 1950 captioned "Africa is Next Door" states in part:

"The sole hope of the dying empires of Western Europe is intensified exploitation and continued slavery of African workers through U. S. money and munitions...

"The empires of Western Europe are fighting as never before to retain a strangle hold on Africa. It is essential for the success of any war with Russia... American Big Business prospers by controlling the imperialist cliques of Western Europe; the Atlantic Pact throws our armed might behind the empires as they attempt to crush

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Hon. 100-5082

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"independence movements within the colonies. And all this continuation of virtual slavery is justified under the guise of a holy war to contain 'Russian Communism.'"

In his column on January 19, 1950, Subject, in speaking of the coming Constitutional Convention for Hawaii and the document that will be drawn up at that time, states:

"Provision should be made for breaking up the big estates which control so much of this Territory and force Hawaii to depend upon a sugar and pineapple economy. Small independent farmers need to have access to land at a reasonable fee so that they can engage in diversified farming and thus make the people less at the mercy of the shipping industry and importing monopolies for food."

V. ACTIVITIES IN THE HAWAII CIVIL LIBERTIES COMMITTEE -- (HCLC)

As has been previously pointed out, the HCLC was listed by the Attorney General as a Communist organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

According to [ ] previously referred to, who is a member of the HCLC, the Subject was present at a picnic held by this organization on September 17, 1949 at Manners Beach. Informant advised that Subject distributed copies of a newsletter published by the New York Civil Rights Congress at this affair. The Civil Rights Congress has also been designated by the Attorney General as a Communist organization.

Informant reported that at the Executive Committee meeting of the HCLC held [ ] 1949 [ ] asked the Chairman, [ ] whether it would not be a good idea for the HCLC to merge with the Civil Rights Congress. [ ] replied that

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representatives of the HCLC had talked over a possible merger with FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS; however, he said that discussions led HCLC officials to believe that such a merger was not to the best advantage of the Honolulu organization.

[redacted] reported that during the month of October 1949 [redacted] staff writer for the "HONOLULU RECORD," [redacted] and [redacted] and FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS spent considerable time in the bars and cafes of Smith and Hotel Streets in Honolulu in order to plant the seeds of race hatred, especially against the Honolulu Police Department and in order to create interest in the HCLC among the Negro people who frequent these bars and cafes. Informant stated that backing up these visits are the columns of the "HONOLULU RECORD," which have concentrated recently in stirring up race hatred in the Negro sections of Honolulu.

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[redacted] reported that while Subject had not attended any recent meetings of the HCLC, [redacted] announced, at the Executive Committee meeting held on January 30, 1950, that he had appointed the Subject as Chairman of the Legal Action Committee of this organization.

Informant further advised that at the general membership meeting held on February 6, 1950 Subject was approved for this position. He stated that it was decided at this meeting that the future policy and activities of the HCLC would be placed in the hands of an eleven-man executive committee and that general membership meetings would only be held from time to time and not on a regular basis.

[redacted] Chairman of the HCLC for 1950, announced at this meeting that the Subject was selected as Legal Action Chairman because of his years of experience with the Civil Rights Congress. He said he personally contacted DAVIS regarding the position and that DAVIS informed him he would be glad to serve on the committee in such a capacity. [redacted] stated that the Subject would be a valuable asset to the Executive Committee. He said Subject's job would be to investigate civil liberties issues and advise and guide the Executive Committee in action on these matters.

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Hon. 100-5082

VI. SUPPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LONG-  
SHOREMEN'S & WAREHOUSEMEN'S UNION (ILWU)

[ ] advised that the Subject and his wife were among about 60 people who attended a benefit picnic for the striking ILWU longshoremen on June 11, 1949 at the home of [ ] Informant stated that most of those present were identified or suspected members of the Communist Party in Hawaii and included CHARLES FUJIMOTO, publicly admitted head of the Communist Party in Hawaii, and DWIGHT JAMES FREEMAN, who has been identified as Communist Party Organizer for Hawaii by Confidential Informant [ ] of known reliability.

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Informant noted that the largest donation for the longshore strike fund was received from the Subject and his wife, who donated \$25.00.

[ ] reported that Subject was among the speakers at the CIO--ILWU Labor Day activities held on September 5, 1949. He stated that DAVIS was introduced by RALPH VOSSBRINK and made a speech in which he lauded the CIO unions for their non-discrimination policies and said he had been and would continue to be a strong advocate of the CIO.

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Among the other speakers was W. K. BASSETT, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor of Honolulu, who spoke very highly of the Subject, calling him a personal friend and said that DAVIS "forgets more every night he sleeps than I have ever known."

VII. MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

[ ] reported that the Subject was present at a farewell party held for [ ] on July 14, 1949 at the residence of [ ] Informant advised that many prominent members of the Communist Party were at this affair, including CHARLES FUJIMOTO, publicly admitted head of the Communist Party, and [ ] Communist Party Organizer. [ ] stated that during the course of the evening FUJIMOTO had those present sign a petition against the Mundt-Ferguson Bill, which he claimed was "being sneaked through Congress."

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Hon. 100-5082

This informant advised that Subject also attended a farewell party held for [ ] on July 23, 1949 when the [ ] thought they were returning to the Mainland. It should be noted that [ ] has been identified as a member of the Communist Party by [ ] who furnished this information to Confidential Informant [ ] an informant of known reliability. [ ] also admitted her own membership in the Communist Party to this informant.

[ ] wife of [ ] has been identified as a member of the Communist Party by [ ] who advised [ ] that she had admitted her membership in the Communist Party to him.

[ ] reported that during the HCLC picnic held on September 17, 1949 at Manners Beach the Subject was observed photographing large sections of the coastline with a camera containing a telescopic lens. Informant stated that DAVIS spent much of his time in this activity. He said that this was the third different occasion DAVIS had been observed photographing shorelines and beachfronts. Informant advised that it did not appear he was photographing any particular objects.

This informant further advised on November 1, 1949 that the Subject escorted several Negro correspondents from Mainland papers throughout Oahu during their stay on the Island for Miki operations conducted by the U. S. Army. Informant stated that one of the correspondents, [ ] stated that the Subject attempted to influence the correspondents' opinion of the treatment of Negroes in Hawaii and to have them so color their dispatches to Negro periodicals.

[ ] further advised that DAVIS was present at a farewell party held for [ ] on January 14, 1950 at the home of [ ] in Honolulu. [ ] advised that [ ] admitted to him his membership in the Communist Party. Informant advised that during the evening FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS, in a conversation with several others, lauded "militant Negroes" such as frequent Honolulu's Smith Street underworld.

Hon. 100-5082

DAVIS explained the leadership of the Negro race in progressive circles largely stems from "pool room types." He said that this element of the Negro race was turning to the Communist Party as well as to underworld activities as a means of combating "the system under which we live." He went on to state that some of the Communist Party's most active workers and leaders were recruited from the ranks of the Negro underworld.

He upheld those who frequent the Smith Street bars and cafes as victims of a capitalist system and persons who are combating the economic evils of our system of government in the only manner open to them.

- PENDING -

Hon. 100-5082

LEADS

THE HONOLULU OFFICE

AT HONOLULU, T. H.

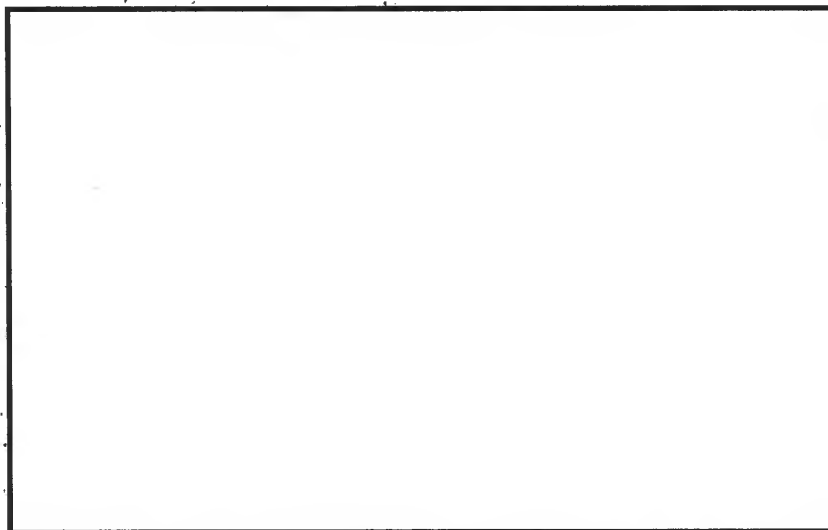
WILL continue to follow and report the Communist activities of the Subject.



Hon. 100-5082.

INFORMANTS

The confidential informants mentioned in the report of  
SA WADE E. KNAPP dated March 16, 1950 at Honolulu, T. H. are identified  
as follows:



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Temporary symbols were used for the above either at  
their own request or to further conceal their identity.

REFERENCE:

Bureau File 100-328955  
Report of SA WADE E. KNAPP dated 7/15/49 at Honolulu.



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 8/8/50

FROM *gjh* SAC, Honolulu

SUBJECT: FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
(Bufile 100-328955)

*Sl Card LTD  
9-1-50 RH*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-22-77 BY SPY Bja/OK

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above captioned individual.

xx The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ALIASES \_\_\_\_\_  
RACE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_ NATIVE BORN \_\_\_\_\_ NATURALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ ALIEN \_\_\_\_\_  
COMMUNIST \_\_\_\_\_ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY \_\_\_\_\_ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE \_\_\_\_\_  
MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
TAB FOR DETCOM \_\_\_\_\_ TAB FOR COMSAB \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_  
RESIDENCE ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

FBI STAT SECTION

SEP 8 10 19 AM '50

PUNCHED

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) \_\_\_\_\_  
Owner of Oahu Papers, 406 P Road, Honolulu, T. H., and Columnist for the Honolulu Record, 811 Sheridan Street, Honolulu, T. H.

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Strategic and Vital Industry List)

RBS:rlc  
100-5082

52 SEP 11 1950

RECORDED - 45

100-328955-17

AUG 11 1950

A. E. Leonard

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: September 6, 1950

FROM : SAC, Honolulu

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
 DISTRICT 13  
 HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 4-22-77 BY 24 Bp/AT

Enclosed herewith is column appearing in the Honolulu Record weekly newspaper dated August 31, 1950. The Honolulu Record is reliably reported as a Communist Party dominated publication and the author of the column, FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS is an identified CP member.

The clipping is being forwarded for information purposes and need not be returned.

RCC:mms

97-10-I

c.c. 100-5082

Encl.

RECORDED - 129

INDEXED - 129

SEP 9 1950

EX - 83

EX - 83

ENCL

## Frank-ly Speaking

By FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS

### PEACE, IT'S SUBVERSIVE!

I refuse to accept the idea, now getting support in many powerful circles, that to oppose killing or getting killed is subversive. It is not only my right as an American but my duty as one trained in the principles of democracy and Christianity to fight against the horror of another Hiroshima here or anywhere else in the world.

They taught me that both democracy and Christianity believed in the brotherhood of man, in the principle of peace on earth, goodwill toward all mankind, and I believed them. I have no intention, at this late date, of throwing these guiding principles overboard and accepting the doctrine that there is glory only in death and destruction.

That is why I have signed the World Peace Appeal issued last March in Stockholm and why I shall urge others to do likewise. I do this in full knowledge that such action is "subversive" and that the FBI will be put on my trail, if the Honolulu Advertiser has its way.



MR. DAVIS

### What the Petition Says

For the morning daily of Sunday, August 20, in an attempt to intimidate those who believe in peace, said editorially:

"Communist agents are circulating so-called 'peace petitions' sponsored by the 'Partisans for Peace.' Don't sign them, if you really want peace. They are Communist propaganda tailor-made in Moscow. . . . Actually they are part of a cleverly devised plot to enmesh millions of free peoples throughout the world in the Russian Communist net."

Let's take a look at this "Communist propaganda." On one side of the petition are statements in favor of peace from UN Secretary Trygve Lie, the International Red Cross, a UAW-CIO official, novelist Thomas Mann and French Catholic leader Abbe Boulier. Here is the actual text of the petition itself:

"We demand the outlawing of atomic weapons as instruments of intimidation and mass murder of peoples. We demand strict international control to enforce this measure."

"We believe that any government which first uses atomic weapons against any other country whatsoever will be committing a crime against humanity and should be dealt with as a war criminal."

"We call on all men and women of good will throughout the world to sign this appeal."

That's what it says. It could be I am too dense to see the Communist propaganda; but it seems to me a sign of moral degeneracy for responsible people to state that only the Communists want this petition signed, and so beware of it.

### Works Both Ways

I have no way of knowing how this petition is getting along in Russia, but it occurs to me that if enough Americans and others signed it and it was ignored by the Soviet Union, then we would place Moscow in the untenable position of opposing peace while the rest of us wanted to end war. Obviously, the reverse of this is also true.

You will notice that no nation is mentioned in the petition. It states specifically that "any government which first uses atomic weapons against any other country whatsoever will be committing a crime against humanity and should be dealt with as a war criminal." This means that if Russia first uses atomic weapons, then she should be dealt with as a war criminal. If this is "Communist propaganda," isn't it rather dumb for a group that is supposed to be so diabolically clever?

As you think about it, you can't help but wonder if the opposition to this peace petition may not stem from the desire in certain quarters to use the atom bomb, possibly against North Korea. Naturally, it would be embarrassing to use this weapon if a sizeable part of America was opposed, hence the attempt to sabotage the peace effort by calling it subversive.

### In Good Company

Frankly, this petition merits the full support of every person who believes in human dignity, of every Christian who believes in brotherhood and the commandment, "Thou shalt not kill." To mix conflicting political ideologies into the issue of whether we shall die in bigger and more horrible Hiroshimas or find a method of existing on this globe together is to march blindly down the dead-end path to total destruction.

And if I am subversive for thinking these thoughts, at least I am in good company. Chairman of the Peace Information Center in New York City, where the petitions come from, is Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, one of the founders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and internationally famous historian and scholar.

In answer to charges that the petition is "Communist propaganda," Dr. DuBois asked:

## Frank-ly Speaking

(From Page 8)

Communist propaganda," Dr. DuBois asked:

### Peace Is Not Subversive

"Must any proposals for averting atomic catastrophe be sanctified by Soviet opposition? It is not sufficient today to trace a proposal to a Communist source in order to dismiss it with contempt."

As for myself, I cannot oppose an idea merely because it has the backing of Communists. Under this reasoning, I would be forced to support Jim Crow and lynching purely because these practices are fought by the Communists. Then where would that leave me in my fight for full equality?

Peace! It's too wonderful for me to think it subversive.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-22-17 BY SP4 Bp/BK

100-328955-18  
3-81-2132

Sept 22, 1950

DIRECTOR, FBI

GUY HOTTEL, SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

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aka

Office of Construction, Supply Service Procurement  
Division, General Equipment Section.  
Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C.  
LGE

The above-captioned employee was the subject  
of a Loyalty Investigation during August 1949 and  
according to her personnel file at the Veterans  
Administration was found to be loyal by the Loyalty  
Appeals Board on October 7, 1949. She is presently  
employed by the Veterans Administration.

By letter dated August 23, 1950, the Honolulu  
Division advised that a mail cover which had been placed  
on FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS the subject of an Internal  
Security - C investigation reflected the receipt of a  
letter postmarked April 27, 1950 from [redacted]  
[redacted]

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The foregoing is being furnished for the information  
of the Bureau and no further action is being taken by  
this office. HUC

121-12042  
WJM Jr:lm  
cc 100-21094

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-22-97 BY SP4 Bja/BK

100-3288  
NOT RECORDED  
133 OCT 7 1950

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **HONOLULU, T. H.**

FILE NO. **100-328955**

|  |                                   |   |  |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| REPORT MADE AT<br><b>HONOLULU, T. H.</b> | DATE WHEN MADE<br><b>11-13-50</b> | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE<br><b>11/2-6/50</b> | REPORT MADE BY<br><b>WAL. J. KNAPP</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>LFS</b></span> |
| TITLE<br><br><b>FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS</b> |                                   |   | CHARACTER OF CASE<br><br><b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>                                |

*yes*

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Subject's business address is now 406 P Road, Honolulu. He admitted to an informant he became interested in the Communist Party in 1931 and urged informant to join the Communist Party. However, he claimed Communist Party of Hawaii was built around a group of white chauvinists who do not fully understand the basic principles underlying the Communist Party. In recent months he has sent two checks to the International Workers Order. Subject has been active in affairs of the Hawaii Civil Liberties, a Communist front, and occupies the position of Chairman of the Legal Action Committee of this organization. On June 29, 1950, he issued a \$500.00 check to the Honolulu Record. He continues to write a weekly column for this publication and in recent months has condemned the conviction of HARRY BRIDGES, the House Committee on Un-American Activities, United States intervention in Korea, and the Communist Control Bill. Subject is Assistant Secretary of his Democratic Party Precinct Club and was a Delegate to the Territorial Democratic Convention.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE **12-1-50** BY **SP-5 JPK**

*100-328955  
12-1-50  
JPK*

**COPIES DESTROYED  
8117 JAN 4 1960**

*Post  
DIR*

|  |                         |                               |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED<br><i>Joseph V. Logue</i>                     | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES  |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT<br><br>⑤ - Bureau (100-328955)<br>3 - Honolulu |                         | 100-328955-20                 |
|  |                         | RECORDED - 78<br>INDEXED - 78 |
| <b>COPY IN FILE</b>  |                         |                               |

Honolulu File 100-5082

DETAILS:

AT HONOLULU, T. H.

I. RESIDENCE AND EMPLOYMENT

Confidential Informant [ ] of known reliability, advised that FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS continues to reside in the Kapaka District of windward Oahu and receives his mail at the Hauula, Oahu Post Office;

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Special Agent RICHARD B. STULL personally observed the subject does business as Oahu Papers which is located at 406 P Road, Honolulu, T. H.

II. MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMUNIST PARTY

Confidential Informant [ ] of known reliability, stated that on June 16, 1950, subject informed him he became interested in the Communist Party in 1931, while he was Editor of the Atlanta Daily World, a Negro newspaper. Subject stated he became interested in the Communist Party mainly because of the Scottsboro case and later because of the Herndon case. DAVIS went on to urge [ ] to join the Communist Party.

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DAVIS said that because of his newspaper work in Honolulu he had intimate contact with "the white leaders of the Party here." In this regard, the name [ ] was mentioned. He told informant that the Communist Party of Hawaii was built around a group of white chauvinists and said that they do not fully understand the basic principles underlying the Communist Party. It was his opinion that the Communist Party of Hawaii has no basic understanding of the role of the Negro.

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III. PARTICIPATION IN THE

The International Workers Order has been designated by the Attorney General as a Communist organization coming within the purview of Executive Order number 9835.

Through the cooperation of Confidential Informant [ ] of known reliability, it was ascertained that on April 26, 1950, subject issued a check in the amount of \$5.52 payable to the International Workers Order. It was later ascertained that this check had deposited in the National City Bank of New York, Washington Branch.

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Again, on August 14, 1950, subject issued a check in the amount of \$5.52 payable to the International Workers Order, which was also deposited in the National City Bank of New York, Washington Square Branch. These checks were drawn on the subject's account at the Bishop National Bank. However, this information can not be used in court without the issuance of a subpoena.

IV. MEMBERSHIP IN THE HAWAII CIVIL LIBERTIES  
COMMITTEE (HCLC)

The Hawaii Civil Liberties Committee was listed by the Attorney General on April 21, 1949, as a Communist organization coming within the purview of Executive Order number 9835.

The House Committee on Un-American Activities, in a report on the HCLC, "A Communist Front," dated June 23, 1950, concluded as follows:

"The Committee on Un-American Activities is in unanimous agreement that the Hawaii Civil Liberties Committee is a subversive organization initiated and operated by Communists for the sole purpose of expanding the influence of the small Communist minority in the Territory of Hawaii."

This pamphlet, on page 17, described FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS as a member of the HCLC and a member of the International Executive Board of the Civil Rights Congress.

The Civil Rights Congress has also been listed as a Communist organization coming within the purview of Executive Order number 9835 by the Attorney General of the United States.

The minutes of the HCLC meeting on February 6, 1950, as furnished by [ ] previously referred to, reflect that at that meeting subject was elected to the position of Chairman of the Legal Action Committee of the HCLC for 1950.

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Honolulu File 5082

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Further proof of the membership of the subject in the HCLC was furnished by Confidential Informant [redacted] in May of 1950 in the form of a membership mailing list. It was noted that the subject's name appeared on this list.

[redacted] informed that subject was present at the HCLC Executive Committee meeting on March 27, 1950, at the home of [redacted] who was then residing at [redacted] Honolulu, and was also present at the Executive Committee meeting held at the home of [redacted] on [redacted]

[redacted] At this latter meeting, subject told those present that he had made a general observation of the activities and effect of the HCLC and had arrived at the conclusion that the organization had made the mistake of rallying behind and waging fights for causes which had been confined to issues of Communism or concerning Communists. In this regard, he said that the general public was not yet educated to the point where it could see through the civil liberties involved in cases concerning Communists or Communism. He urged members of the Executive Committee to wage campaigns and launch programs which would involve civil liberties issues outside the realm of Communism and not involving Communists. He said that in this way it would attract the interest of a greater number of people.

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DAVIS went on to suggest that the organization "broaden its base" by adding to the Executive Committee members of the Puerto Rican, Filipino and Hawaiian communities. He said that this would make it appear as an organization representative of the entire community and at the same time it would have at its fingertips not only the pulse of the entire community but a funnel through which the civil liberties issues of all racial groups would come to its attention.

[redacted] ascertained that subject was present at the Executive Committee meeting of the HCLC held on [redacted] at the residence of [redacted] Honolulu, and was at the benefit dance held on the night of June 3, 1950, at 50 South Queen Street, Honolulu, T. H.

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On this latter occasion, DAVIS was introduced to the audience and gave a short speech in which he attacked the conduct of local police officers and warned that the wave of police brutality in Honolulu was similar to the first stages of the spreading of Fascism.

Honolulu File 100-5082

[ ] informed that subject was present at the HCLC Executive Committee meeting on [ ] held at the residence of [ ] at which time the question of possible affiliation with the Civil Rights Congress was brought up. DAVIS listed several advantages that the HCLC would receive by affiliating with the National organization. It was finally decided that [ ] Chairman of the HCLC, would contact officials of the Civil Rights Congress in New York during his trip to the mainland and secure all the information necessary to decide on the question of affiliation. DAVIS suggested that [ ] contact WILLIAM PATTERSON, Officer of the Civil Rights Congress, and told him that PATTERSON was the type of person he would like to meet. b2 b6 b7C b7D

Later during this same meeting, [ ] suggested that the Executive Committee elect a new temporary Chairman to replace him during his trip to the mainland. [ ] opened the nomination by pointing to the subject and saying that he was the most logical person to take over the Chairmanship. DAVIS, however, declined to accept on the grounds that he was too busy getting his business started. b6 b7C

[ ] has been identified as a member of the Communist Party by Confidential Informant [ ] of known reliability.

Confidential Informant [ ] previously referred to, reported that subject was at the Executive Committee meeting of the HCLC held on [ ] at the home of [ ] and that during the evening he passed out pamphlets entitled "The Big Lie." It was noted that this pamphlet was published by the National Non-Partisan Committee to Defend the Rights of the 12 Communist Leaders. It was reported by this informant that DAVIS was present at the Executive Committee meeting of the HCLC on [ ] at the home of [ ] Honolulu, at an HCLC picnic on [ ] at [ ] Oahu, T. H. b2 b6 b7C b7D

This informant noted that FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS was one of the members of the Executive Committee that was contacted and consented to send the following telegram to President TRUMAN:

"WE ASK YOU IN THE NAME OF RIGHTS GUARANTEED BY THE CONSTITUTION TO REVERSE DECISION THROWING HARRY BRIDGES INTO JAIL BECAUSE OF HIS STRONG STAND FOR WORLD PEACE.

SECRET

Honolulu File 100-5082

This telegram was sent in under the name of the Hawaii Civil Liberties Committee.

[ ] advised that DAVIS was present at the HCLC Executive Committee meeting on [ ] held at the home of [ ] at which time the agenda of the meeting was confined to the report of [ ] on his conference with the officials of the Civil Rights Congress in New York. [ ] advised those present that the Civil Rights Congress would be glad to have the HCLC affiliate and would cooperate by sending WILLIAM PATTERSON, Executive Secretary, to Hawaii to help them get a good start and would also send PAUL ROBESON. All members of the Executive Committee present voted to recommend to the general membership that the HCLC affiliate with the Civil Rights Congress.

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Subject was appointed a member of a four man committee to work out the details of the trip to Hawaii of WILLIAM PATTERSON and PAUL ROBESON.

The informant further advised that subject passed out reprints of an editorial from the St. Louis Post Dispatch to those present. This reprint carried a footnote addressed to the United States Attorney General, urging him to support the right to bail for the eleven convicted American Communist leaders.

It was reported by [ ] that DAVIS was present at a special meeting of the Executive Committee of the HCLC held at the home of [ ] on [ ]. On this occasion, he passed out a magazine entitled "Uncensored News" and asked if those present approved of the publication. It was noted that this magazine was published by the Civil Rights Congress and is a consolidation of the news items and incidents that have been highlighted by the Civil Rights Congress in the past year. Those present agreed to purchase five hundred copies of this publication for distribution in Hawaii.

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At the regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the HCLC, held on [ ] at the home of [ ] DAVIS was present and according to [ ] read an analysis of the McCarran Communist Control Bill which had been received from the C. R. C. The analysis urged all organizations and individuals not to register. Those present agreed that the HCLC would defy the bill and would not register.

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Honolulu File 100-5082

[redacted] advised that subject was present at an HCLC fund raising party held on the night of [redacted] at the home of [redacted] Honolulu.

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V. SUPPORT OF THE HONOLULU RECORD

[redacted] former member of the Territorial Executive Board of the Communist Party of Hawaii, advised Special Agents WILLIAM F. DOYLE and JOHN P. McHUGH in August of 1950, that the establishment of the Honolulu Record was discussed at an Executive Board level in the Communist Party and the setting up of this publication received the endorsement of that group. He indicated that based on his observations at Executive Board meetings of the Communist Party he could state that the editorial policy and the slant of news in the Honolulu Record is controlled by decisions reached in Executive Board meetings of the Communist Party.

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The House Committee on Un-American Activities, in a report on the HCLC dated June 23, 1950, referred to the Honolulu Record as "a Pro-Communist publication", "the Party-line publication" and "the Communist-front publication".

Confidential Informant [redacted] previously referred to, made available checks drawn on the bank account of the subject at the Bishop National Bank and it was noted that on June 29, 1950, subject issued a check in favor of the Honolulu Record in the amount of \$500.00. This information cannot be used in court without the issuance of a subpoena.

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[redacted] advised that the Honolulu Record is published every Thursday at the office and plant located at 811 Sheridan Street, Honolulu. He stated that the work of folding and preparing the paper for distribution is done by volunteer workers including many prominent members of the Communist Party. In this regard, informant reported that the subject was present helping in this endeavor on the following dates:

June 29, 1950  
July 13, 1950  
July 27, 1950  
August 10, 1950  
August 31, 1950  
September 7, 1950

September 21, 1950  
September 28, 1950  
October 5, 1950  
October 12, 1950  
October 19, 1950

Honolulu File 100-5082

VI. WRITINGS IN THE HONOLULU RECORD

A review of the Honolulu Record reflects subject continues to write a weekly column which appears on the editorial page of this publication. His column is titled "Frank-ly Speaking" and always carries the subject's photograph.

In his column in the Honolulu Record dated February 9, 1950, captioned "Onward with the Hydrogen Bomb," subject states in part:

"Then one day President TRUMAN announced that the Russians had the atomic bomb. Our dividend diplomats wrung their hands but the people breathed more easily. If both sides had it, the chances of a hot war were quite remote. Neither would start anything for fear of retaliation by the other. Maybe there would be peace at last.

"But ours is a resourceful land. Unless we have a threat better than the other fellow's, the crisis making business might go bankrupt, thus forcing us to cut our war budget, and you know what that would do to the incomes of the poor millionaires. Therefore, we will create a hydrogen bomb to shake at Russia, and then we can keep on making shiny new crises on a mass production basis. After all, there's always the chance that the American people will agree to war--for the sake of peace, of course!--while we have an H-bomb and before the Soviets can make one of their own."

In his column of March 2, 1950, subject states:

"Like FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, I am proud of being left of center in the best American tradition. Because I reject thought control and witch hunts as a subversion of democracy, and since I have the unpopular idea that our Constitution means what it says, certain people consider me a 'dangerous radical,' who must be 'closely watched.'"

SECRET

Honolulu File 100-5082

In the Honolulu Record dated March 16, 1950, DAVIS captioned his column "More CIO Bankruptcy." In this column he states in part:

"I might add that 3 years ago was when the CIO began giving support to the TRUMAN Doctrine and its meddling in the internal affairs of Greece and Turkey. The outgrowth of the TRUMAN Doctrine is the CIO-backed Atlantic Pact and its support for imperialism and denial of equality to the millions of Asian and African colonial subjects. In other words, you can't suppress equal rights abroad and support equal rights at home. And thus the CIO has sacrificed the fight for civil liberties in America."

" . . . . "

"Until the National CIO leadership can be brought back to the straight road of sound trade unionism, it will be a sign of intellectual cleanliness to be among those unions ousted from the CIO."

In the Honolulu Record dated April 6, 1950, DAVIS devotes his column to the conviction of HARRY BRIDGES, stating:

"I am not at all surprised at the conviction of HARRY BRIDGES. Disappointed, yes, but not surprised. With the political atmosphere prevailing in my country today, I believe that President TRUMAN or even ALFRED SLOAN of General Motors would be convicted of being Soviet spies if a way could be found to bring them to trial."

" . . . . "

"Those who believe that HARRY BRIDGES is a good trade union leader and who think it would be a serious blow to organized labor if he were deported must back the ILWU leader to the limit. That should include every member of the union, their families and all the working people of Hawaii who have profited by the strong fight for labor and the common man waged by the ILWU."

SECRET



Honolulu File 100-5082

~~SECRET~~

DAVIS' column of April 13, 1950, was devoted to an attack on Representative JOHN WOOD, Chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, and conditions in Georgia.

On the following week, April 20, 1950, he attempted to ridicule the House Committee on Un-American Activities hearings which were held in Honolulu from April 10, through April 19, 1950, and referred to ex-members of the Communist Party who had testified as "blabber boys." In this column he states in part:

"If a victim said he was a Communist (and a person, to make such an admission today to a Committee would have to be either a fool or a masochist) he would be expected to sing out the names of other Communists."

In the Honolulu Record edition of April 27, 1950, he states:

"For the first time in its 12 year history, I had a chance to see the Un-American Committee in action and while, under WALTER, it wore kid gloves its hands were actually as dirty as its record had led many Americans to believe. To me, the Un-American Committee is still un-American."

On May 18, 1950, subject in his column objects to the fact that Western Germany is being brought into the alliance of the "Western Democracies against Russia." He closes his column with the statement:

"But if what is being peddled today is democracy, make mine root beer."

In the Honolulu Record edition of June 15, 1950, DAVIS refers to an announcement that appeared in the local daily press that contempt citations would be asked in Congress for thirty-six "unfriendly" witnesses who refused to answer questions regarding Communism during the House Committee on Un-American Activities hearings in Honolulu from April 10, through April 19, 1950. In this column he states:

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Honolulu File 100-5082

"The New York trials of the 11 Communist leaders, the HARRY BRIDGES trial, the contempt action against the Hawaii 36 are but steps in a definite program which could mean jail within two years for those who dare to read progressive publications, and this includes the Honolulu Record. The plotters are banking on the continued disinterest of the American public in their master drive to kill off all independent and progressive thought within our nation."

DAVIS devotes considerable space in his columns to what he terms racial prejudices existing in the islands and on the mainland. Thus in his column of July 6, 1950, he tells of the arrest of THOMAS LAMPLEY on May 18, 1950 and the alleged beating of LAMPLEY by the Honolulu police following his arrest. In this regard he states:

"Of all the organizations in the Territory, what group came to the aid of LAMPLEY and joined forces with Negroes who spontaneously had started raising a LAMPLEY defense fund? None other than the HCLC listed as 'subversive' by TOM CLARK and which was a victim of the recent un-American hearings. What other group passed a resolution condemning the bullying and brutality directed by Honolulu police towards the Negroes? The HCLC, listed as a 'Communist union' by the CIO.

"That is why the anti-Red hysteria fails to make sense to me and millions of other Negroes who have seen those individuals and groups listed as 'Red' and 'subversive' take the lead in the fight against racism when the 'respectable people' remained silent."

His column in the Honolulu Record edition of July 13, 1950, is called "Our Policy in Korea". In this regard he states:

"I do not pretend to know all the circumstances which led to the outbreak of war between North and South Korea, but I do think we, as a nation have blundered in our manner of intervention in this conflict.

Honolulu File 100-5082

" . . . .

"In addition to miffing a chance for moral leadership we have given the colored people of the globe still another count against the U. S. as a nation. The U. S. is considered to be a white man's country. You may be sure that the spectacle of white Americans shooting down the Orientals of North Korea will not be ignored by the rest of Asia and Africa who are struggling to throw off the yoke of what they call 'white imperialism'.

" . . . .

"But that was not enough. We made sure that none of the colonial peoples would separate us from the camp of white imperialism by announcing support to the French Masters in their effort to stamp out the Vietnamese independence movement. This of course is in line with our financial aid to the Dutch imperialists in the same part of the world. We seem unflinchingly committed to support of the masters and to helping kick in the teeth the exploited. No matter how corrupt and mercenary and cruel a government may be, let its spokesmen say they are against Communism and our pocket book flies open."

He continues in this same vein in his column of July 27, 1950, stating:

"Is it our purpose to save Asia from Communism, or is it to preserve the rule of the imperialists and their puppets who are hated by the masses?

"This is the key question in our intervention on the side of the discredited RHEE government in the Korean civil war, our promise to defend the feudal Chinese Nationalists on Formosa, and our aid to the French in their attempt to crush the independence move in Viet Nam.

" . . . .

~~SECRET~~

"At any rate, this is not the simple war between 'Communism' and 'Democracy' the propagandist would have us believe. For the 'democracy' of the RHEE Government in South Korea has a stench that sickens all Asia."

DAVIS, in the Honolulu Record dated August 3, 1950, devotes considerable space in quoting from the book "The Situation in Asia" by OWEN LATTIMORE in an effort to show that the North Koreans think more of their Government and have more to fight for than the people of South Korea.

In his column of August 10, 1950, captioned "Koreans Demand Independence" DAVIS states in part:

"What we refuse to see is that this shapes up as a way of independence for Korea and, as such, has the moral backing of most of Asia. Washington does not understand that the Korean people, after 36 years of Japanese rule, are determined to control their own nation and destiny. They insist on unity. They do not want a Korea divided at the 38th Parallel, nor do they want a government of wealthy landlords and collaborators with the hated Japanese such as we forced upon them in the South and backed with our dollars and armed might, and which we evidently want to extend over the whole nation. They have no love for a Korean Kuomintang."

In the Honolulu Record edition of August 31, 1950, DAVIS states:

"They taught me that both democracy and christianity believed in the brotherhood of man, in the principle of peace on earth, goodwill toward all mankind, and I believed them. I have no intention, at this late date, of throwing these guiding principles overboard and accepting the doctrine that there is glory only in death and destruction."

"That is why I have signed the World Peace Appeal issued last March in Stockholm and why I shall urge others to do likewise. I do this in full knowledge that such action is 'subversive' and that the FBI will be put on my tail, if the Honolulu Advertiser has its way."

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Honolulu File 100-5082

The following comments are expressed by subject in the Honolulu Record edition of September 21, 1950:

"JAN CHRISTIAN SMUTS, Field Marshal and former Premier of South Africa is dead. In all this world, I know of few people whose obituary I take greater pleasure in writing.

"SMUTS was 80 years old when the end came. This was close to 80 years too long.

" . . . .

"I, for one, cannot mourn his passing. I mourn only that he lived so long."

He makes the following comments in the edition of September 22, 1950:

"In passing the so-called Communist Control Bill over President TRUMAN's veto, Congress has extended to the entire nation the conditions of terror and repression under which several million Negroes have lived for generations in the far South.

"In effect, the new law means that anybody who openly disagrees with the status quo as established by Washington and local area may find himself fingered as a 'subversive' and jailed."

Excerpted from his column of October 12, 1950, captioned "The Profits of War" are set out as follows:

"If an industry, already making its highest profits in history, can hike prices 25 to 200 % when a shooting war starts and can keep most of this added take because of the lack of an excess profits tax and this industry also has a strong voice in shaping government policy, which do you think we will have, peace or war?"

Honolulu File 100-5082

"And if there is no shooting war at the moment, is not the next best thing a brink-of-war economy with billions set aside to purchase the products of this industry for stockpiling to be used when another war can be arranged?"

"That, it seems to me, is the key to our present powder-keg diplomacy with Russia and any other nation not willing to let our monster billion dollar corporations step in and grab huge profits. We call it 'preserving democracy' when the real purpose obviously is preserving dividends."

#### VII. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

Confidential Informant [ ] advised in April of 1950, that it appeared that members of the subversive element in Honolulu were concentrating their efforts on infiltration of the Democratic Party through control of Precinct Clubs and organizations. He said they were spending considerable time urging support for their candidates in these Precinct Club elections. In this regard, he noted on April 6, 1950, that subject had been elected Assistant Secretary and Delegate to the Territorial Democratic Convention in his Precinct Club, which is the Third Precinct of the Fifth District.

The attendance of DAVIS at the Territorial Democratic Convention was verified by Confidential Informant [ ]. This convention took place on April 30 at Kalakana Intermediate School.

[ ] advised that on May 10, 1950, subject issued a check drawn on the Bishop National Bank in the amount of \$60.00 to [ ]. The purpose of the check, as noted on the face of it, was "Loan to Democratic Precinct Club."

This information cannot be used in court without the issuance of a subpoena.

#### VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

[ ] ascertained that on September 10, 1950, DAVIS entertained a small group of people at his home. On this occasion, he passed out petitions issued by the Civil Rights Congress in New York and told

Honolulu File 100-5082

those present to have them signed and to return them directly to the Civil Rights Congress in New York. The petitions were addressed to the United States Attorney General and asked that he withdraw the motion cancelling the right to bail for the eleven Communist leaders and to support all motions which will bring the constitutional issues in this case to the Supreme Court for review.

As previously noted, the Civil Rights Congress has been listed by the United States Attorney General as a Communist organization coming within the purview of Executive Order number 9835.

- P E N D I N G -

~~SECRET~~



Honolulu File 100-5082

LEAD

THE HONOLULU OFFICE

AT HONOLULU, T. H.

Will continue to follow and report the Communist activities  
of the subject.



Honolulu File 100-5082

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent WADE E. KNAPP dated November 13, 1950, at Honolulu, T. H. are as follows:

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] formerly [REDACTED]  
residing in [REDACTED] who  
[REDACTED] furnished the information to Special Agent  
DONALD E. LARSEN and who requested that his  
identity be kept confidential.  
[REDACTED]

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b7C  
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REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent WADE E. KNAPP dated  
March 16, 1950, at Honolulu, T. H.

~~SECRET~~

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: November 13, 1950

FROM : SAC, HONOLULU

SUBJECT: FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
(Bureau file 100-328955)

Re Mylet dated March 16, 1950, requesting the Bureau obtain a photostatic copy of the income tax return of the above captioned subject or his wife for the year 1949, when this becomes available, and Bulet dated April 25, 1950, asking that this request be resubmitted in six months.

As previously noted, subject's wife was born [redacted]

[redacted] She has also been known as [redacted]

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Subject and his wife reside between Honolulu and Haula, Oahu, T. H. and receive their mail in care of the Post Office at Haula, Oahu, T. H.

Subject was not known to be gainfully employed during 1949 but claims to be an Associate Editor of the Associated Negro Press. He is also a Poet.

His wife, while not employed, was known to have sold around [redacted] worth of stocks and bonds during the year 1949.

This is being resubmitted at this time in accordance with Bureau instructions.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-22-97 BY SP4 BJA/STX

RECORDED - 24

INDEXED - 24

EX - 53

Let the Bureau  
over 1618  
10-8-50  
CES

100-328955-19  
11/13/50  
[Signature]

December 5, 1950.

The Honorable,  
The Secretary of the Treasury,  
Washington, D. C.

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-22-97 BY SP4 Bja/PK

My dear Mr. Secretary:

In connection with an official investigation  
being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, it  
is requested that there be made available to this Department  
uncertified copies of the income tax returns and related  
documents filed by Frank Marshall Davis and his wife,  
[redacted] for the year 1949. It is to  
be noted that [redacted] has also been known as  
[redacted]

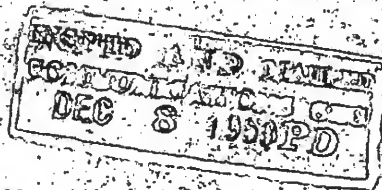
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b7C

They reside between Punahoa and Hauula, Oahu,  
Territory of Hawaii, and receive their mail in care of the  
Post Office at Hauula, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.

Mr. Davis was not known to be gainfully employed  
during 1949 but has claimed to be an Associate Editor of  
the Associated Negro Press. He is also a poet. [redacted]  
while not employed, was reported to have sold around  
[redacted] worth of stocks and bonds during the year 1949.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. Howard McGrath  
Attorney General.



Tolson  
Ladd  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Nichols  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Harbo  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Tele. Room  
Nease  
Gandy

EX-29  
CES:wma  
Bureau: 100-328955

53 DEC 26 1950

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FBI  
DEC 11 1950  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Handwritten signatures and initials, including "C/S" and "C/S".



OFFICE OF  
COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE  
AND REFER TO

REASURY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON 25

DEC 21 1950

The Honorable

The Attorney General

Frank Marshall Davis, et al..

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

Reference is made to your letter dated December 5, 1950, symbols JEH, addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, which has been referred to this office for reply. You request, in connection with an official investigation being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation of your Department, uncertified copies of the income tax returns and related documents of Frank Marshall Davis and his wife

[redacted] also known as [redacted]  
[redacted]

Territory of Hawaii, for the year 1949.

An effort is being made to locate the documents copies of which are desired, and when they become available, the matter will receive prompt attention.

If further correspondence relative to this matter is necessary, please refer to IT:Rec: IW:P-CP.

Very truly yours,

*Geo. G. Schoorman*  
Commissioner

100-328955  
ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-23-97 BY SP4 Bja/BK

RECORDED - 78

INDEXED - 78

26 JAN 25 1951

713-21



U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON 25

OFFICE OF  
COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE  
AND REFER TO

JAN 23 1951

The Honorable

The Attorney General

Frank Marshall Davis, et al.

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

Further reference is made to your letter dated December 5, 1950, symbols JEH, addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, requesting in connection with an official investigation being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation of your Department, uncertified copies of the income tax returns and related documents of Frank Marshall Davis and his wife [redacted] also known as [redacted]

[redacted] Territory of Hawaii, for the year 1949.

The records of the Bureau for the internal revenue collection district of Hawaii do not disclose returns for Frank Marshall Davis nor for his wife [redacted] also known as [redacted]

[redacted] Hauula, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, for the year 1949.

If returns may have been filed by the above-named persons in another internal revenue collection district and you will so advise, a further effort will be made to locate them.

If further correspondence relative to this matter is necessary, please refer to IT:Rec:IW:P-CP.

Very truly yours,

KEEP IN F. B. I. FILES

1/27/51 6.7.S.

Commissioner

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-23-97 BY SP4 BJA/PL

100-328955

2-12-51  
let Green Dept  
from A.G.

RECORDED - 6

INDEXED - 6

JAN 29 1951

AKS

RECORDED - 112

February 12, 1951.

Your reference,  
IT:Geo:IN:P-GP

The Honorable,  
The Secretary of the Treasury,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Reference is made to your letter dated January 23, 1951, entitled "Frank Marshall Davis, et al."

It will be appreciated if you will inquire of the appropriate Internal Revenue Collection District which covers Chicago, Illinois, to determine if Frank Marshall Davis or his wife, [redacted] filed their income tax returns for 1949 in that District. It is noted in the above-referenced letter that the Internal Revenue Collection District of Hawaii does not disclose that returns for Davis or his wife were filed in that District for the year of 1949.

Frank Marshall Davis was employed as the Executive Editor of the Chicago Star, an interracial weekly publication, published in Chicago, Illinois, from 1946 to September of 1948. His residence until December of 1940 was 3252 South Lake Park Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. It may be that Mr. and Mrs. Davis filed income tax returns for the following year in the Chicago District. If income tax returns are located in this District, it is requested that uncertified copies of these returns and related documents be made available to this Department.

Sincerely yours,

Philip B. Perlman

Acting Attorney General

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COMMUNICATIONS DIV.  
FEB 12 1951

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FEB 19 1951

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

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U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON 25

OFFICE OF  
COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE  
AND REFER TO

The Honorable

FEB 23 1951

The Attorney General

Frank Marshall Davis, et al.

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

Reference is made to a letter dated February 12, 1951, symbols JEH, signed by Acting Attorney General Philip B. Perlman, addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, referring to prior correspondence, which has been referred to this office for reply. It is stated in the letter that Frank Marshall Davis, was employed as the Executive Editor of the Chicago Star, and that his residence until December of 1948 was 3852 South Lake Park Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. It is requested that uncertified copies of the returns and related documents of Mr. Davis and of his wife [redacted] for the year 1949, be made available for the official use of your Department, in the event they are located in the internal revenue collection district which covers Chicago, Illinois.

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An effort is being made to locate the documents, copies of which are desired, and when they become available the request will receive prompt attention.

If further correspondence relative to this matter is necessary, please refer to IT:Rec:IW:P-CP.

Very truly yours,

KEEP IN F. B. I. FILES

3/3/51 4675

Acting,

*Fred S. Martin*  
Commissioner

RECORDED - 134

EX-1

3/2/51  
MAR 7 1951

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-25-97 BY SP4/BA/BA



SAC, Honolulu

April 23, 1951

Director, FBI

FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
Your file 100-5082  
Bufile 100-328955-24

Reurlet dated November 13, 1950, which requested that the Bureau obtain a copy of the income tax return for subject or his wife for the year 1949.

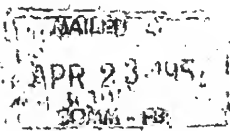
The Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., caused a check to be made of the records of the collection districts of the Internal Revenue Bureau which cover Chicago, Illinois, and the Territory of Hawaii, and was unable to find any returns filed by the subject or his wife for the year 1949.

The Treasury Department advised that if information is obtained indicating that the subject or his wife filed income tax returns in some other district than those mentioned above, a further effort would be made to locate them.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-23-97 BY SP4 BJA/PAK

CES:nlm

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
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Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



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US



U. S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON 25

OFFICE OF  
COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE  
AND REFER TO

APR - 9 1951

The Honorable

The Attorney General

Frank Marshall Davis, et al.

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

Further reference is made to a letter dated February 12, 1951, symbols JEH, signed by Acting Attorney General Philip B. Perlman, addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, referring to prior correspondence stating that Frank Marshall Davis, was employed as the Executive Editor of the Chicago Star, and that his residence until December of 1948 was 3852 South Lake Park Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. It is requested that uncertified copies of the returns and related documents of Mr. Davis and of his wife [redacted]

b6  
b7C

[redacted] for the year 1949, be made available for the official use of your Department, in the event they are located in the internal revenue collection district which covers Chicago, Illinois.

The records of the Bureau for the first internal revenue collection district of Illinois do not disclose returns for Frank Marshall Davis nor for [redacted] Illinois, for the year mentioned.

b6  
b7C

If returns may have been filed by the above-named persons in another internal revenue collection district and you will so advise, a further effort will be made to locate them.

If further correspondence relative to this matter is necessary, please refer to IT:Rec:IW:P-CP.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-23-97 BY SP/BA/BA

let As Handled  
4/23/51  
C.E. S.

KEEP IN F. B. I. FILES

4/25/51 675.

RECORDED - 128  
INDEXED - 128  
EX-24

100-328955-24  
APR 23 1951  
5-132

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

HONOLULU

Honolulu FILE NO. 100-5082 fwp

|  |                                  |  |   |
|--|----------------------------------|--|---|
| REPORT MADE AT<br><b>HONOLULU, T. H.</b> | DATE WHEN MADE<br><b>5/12/51</b> | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE<br><b>5/5-8/51</b> | REPORT MADE BY<br><b>WADE E. KNAPP</b>            |
| TITLE<br><b>FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS</b>     |                                  |  | CHARACTER OF CASE<br><b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b> |

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject has stated that he was submitting a bid on carload lots of paper for the government of Siam. His entire supply of paper and stationery supplies valued at \$8000.00 to \$10,000.00 were destroyed by fire on 3/26/51. DAVIS was elected a member of the Executive Committee of the Hawaii Civil Rights Congress for 1950. This is the Hawaiian affiliate of the Civil Rights Congress which has been listed as a Communist organization coming within purview of Executive Order 9835. In 12/50, DAVIS wrote a check in amount of \$5.52 payable to the International Workers Order. Subject continues to write a weekly column for the Honolulu Record, reportedly Communist controlled publication, and in recent months has been critical of the United States for intervening in Korea, practicing the doctrines of white supremacy, and attempting to start another war. At the same time he has upheld and supported Russia in his writings.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 5-19-92 BY SP-1/BA/BA

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**DETAILS:**

**AT HONOLULU, T. H.**

**I. RESIDENCE AND EMPLOYMENT**

Confidential Informant   of known reliability, has advised that FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS continues to reside in the Kapapa District of Windward Oahu, and

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**55 JUN 6 1951**

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receives his mail at the Hauula Post Office.

Informant stated that subject has a wholesale and retail paper supply business known as Oahu Papers, which is located at 406 P Road, Honolulu, T. H. He said that DAVIS had a considerable stock of all types of paper at this address, including news print, bond stationery, mimeograph paper, and other stationery supplies. However, on March 26, 1951, a fire destroyed the building occupied by the subject, and several other businesses, and he lost his complete supply of paper. Informant ascertained that those occupying the building, including the subject, had taken over a new building located in the rear of 406 P Road. He said that subject was completely covered by insurance.

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b7D

Confidential Informant [ ] of unknown reliability, advised that subject claimed he lost between \$8000.00 and \$10,000.00 worth of news print, bond paper and office supplies in the fire on March 26, 1951. This informant said that subject handles a very expensive brand of bond paper manufactured by the Gilbert Company, and said that he apparently has an unlimited supply for news print and other papers and is known to supply news print for the Honolulu Record.

Subject recently stated that a Purchasing Agent for the Government of Siam had requested him to make a bid on carload lots of paper for Siam; and he said that he was submitting bids on this.

## II. MEMBERSHIP IN THE HAWAII CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS, (HCRC)

As previously reported, subject was elected Chairman of the Legal Action Committee of the Hawaii Civil Liberties Committee (HCLC) for 1950, and in this capacity was automatically a member of the Executive Committee of this organization.

The HCLC was listed by the Attorney General, on April 21, 1950, as a Communist organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Confidential Informant [ ] previously referred to, advised that on September 22, 1950, the HCLC voted to affiliate with the Civil Rights Congress and to be known as the Hawaii Civil Rights Congress, (HCRC). This affiliation was acknowledged

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by the Civil Rights Congress by letter dated October 16, 1950. However, the charter received by the local organization was dated November 27, 1950.

The Civil Rights Congress and its affiliates have been designated by the Attorney General as a Communist organization coming within the purview of Presidential Executive Order 9835.

Informant [ ] advised that it was agreed that officers and members of the Executive Committee of the HCLC would continue in a similar capacity in the new organization until the election of January, 1951. b2 b7D

Informant [ ] ascertained that the subject was at an Executive Committee Meeting of the HCRC held on [ ] at the home of [ ] Honolulu. He also advised that subject was at a fund raising party held by the organization on [ ] at the residence of [ ] Honolulu, T. H. Informant [ ] advised that a considerable number of identified members of the Communist Party of Hawaii was present at this party, including [ ] who has been identified as Communist Party Organizer for the Territory of Hawaii by Confidential Informant [ ] of known reliability. b2 b6 b7C b7D

Informant [ ] determined that a general election of the HCRC was postponed from January, 1951, to February 12, 1951, and held this meeting at the Marine Cooks and Stewards Hall in Honolulu. He said that subject was not at this meeting but was elected as a member of the Executive Committee of the HCRC for the year 1951. Informant advised that the Executive Committee is composed of eleven members, including the officers of the organization, and is empowered to conduct all business of the organization. He said that this Executive Committee meets every other week and that general membership meetings of the organization are only held on very special occasions. b2 b6 b7C b7D

Informant ascertained that the subject was at the Executive Committee meeting held on [ ] at the home of [ ] Honolulu.

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### III. MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER FRONT ORGANIZATIONS

The House Committee on Un-American Activities in a report on the Honolulu Record, dated October 1, 1950, stated on Page 11:

"When Mr. DAVIS' column first appeared in the Record in May, 1949, the Record boasted that the author was a member of the national executive board of the Civil Rights Congress. The organization is cited as Communist by Attorney General TOM CLARK as well as by the Committee on Un-American Activities. Mr. DAVIS has signed a number of statements in behalf of Communists under the sponsorship of the Civil Rights Congress; one of these defended was GERHART EISLER, notorious Communist international agent who escaped jailing for passport fraud by fleeing to the Soviet sector of Germany.

"Other front organizations of the Communist Party with which Mr. DAVIS has associated include: American Youth for Democracy, Abraham Lincoln School, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, League of American Writers, the National Negro Congress, and the Hawaii Civil Liberties Committee".

It should be noted that all of the above have been designated by the Attorney General as Communist organizations coming within the purview of Presidential Executive Order 9835.

Records of a Honolulu bank, which are not to be made public except on the issuance of a subpoena, as furnished by Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, reflect that on December 6, 1950, the subject drew a check in the amount of \$5.52, payable to the International Workers Order.

The International Workers Order has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.



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IV. ACTIVITIES IN BEHALF OF AND WRITINGS IN THE  
HONOLULU RECORD

As previously noted, [redacted] former member of the Territorial Executive Board of the Communist Party of Hawaii, advised Special Agents WILLIAM F. DOYLE and JOHN P. McHUGH in August, 1950, that based on his observations at Executive Board Meetings of the Communist Party he could state that the editorial policy and the slanting of news in the Honolulu Record are controlled by decisions reached in Executive Board Meetings of the Communist Party. b6 b7C

The House Committee on Un-American Activities, in a report on the Honolulu Record dated October 1, 1950, states, "The Committee on Un-American Activities, after analysis and investigation of the Honolulu Record since the first issue of August 5, 1948, draws the inevitable conclusion that the Honolulu Record is a front for the Communist Party, in spite of the fact that this paper does not make this admission."

Confidential Informant [redacted] has ascertained that the Honolulu Record is published every Thursday in Honolulu, at 811 Sheridan Street. He said that much of the work in preparing the paper for distribution is done by volunteers. He has identified a number of prominent members of the Communist Party of Hawaii as assisting in this endeavor, and ascertained that the subject was present on the following days, assisting in preparing the paper for distribution: b2 b7D

November 2, 1950.  
November 9, 1950.  
November 16, 1950.  
December 14, 1950.  
December 21, 1950.  
January 4, 1951.  
February 1, 1951.  
February 15, 1951.  
March 1, 1951.

The House Committee on Un-American Activities in its report on the Honolulu Record, previously referred to, which was published on October 1, 1950, describes FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS as the author of a regular weekly column in the Honolulu Record

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entitled "Frank-ly Speaking". Page 10 of this report states, "Mr. DAVIS' column defends Communists and attacks capitalism with the same vigor as columns appearing regularly in the Daily Worker and other frankly Communist publications."

A review of the subject's column in the Honolulu Record for the past six months reveals the following excerpts of interest.

His column in the Honolulu Record of November 30, 1950, is devoted to the case of Lieutenant LEON GILBERT, Negro officer in the U. S. Army, who was given the death sentence in Korea after a court-martial. In regard to this DAVIS states:

"Many Negroes consider this whole affair merely another effort to discredit Negro soldiers how they have served their purpose as cannon fodder and for propaganda. The fact the 24th Regiment was 'accidentally' bombed by U. S. airplanes is another factor that makes Negroes believe the Army is maintaining its usual anti-Negro policy.

"It is pretty obvious that without the traditional U. S. color prejudice there would not have been this GILBERT case which is nullifying the propaganda beamed to Asia about the use of Negro troops. To go one step further, it is likewise obvious that without our traditional racism the Korean situation would never have developed to the proportions of war."

HONOLULU RECORD, December 28, 1950:

"We are ending a year which saw us get involved in the domestic affairs of Korea and then wipe out most of what little remaining prestige we had in Asia. It seems that the guiding genius directing us down the path to national ruin was especially brilliant in 1950."

"In Korea and the rest of Asia we have refused to see that these people want independence and the dignity of equality with the white world. The day

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is close at hand when no outside nation will be able to force its will for long upon another. That day has come in China; it is dawning in Korea; it is in the Stars over Africa.

"To say that these people are 'Moscow dominated' because they want independence and an end to foreign exploitation is to say that non-white peoples are content with economic and social and political inferiority until stirred up by Communists. That kind of reasoning is an insult to all of the world's black, brown and yellow peoples.

"I firmly believe that if Russia should ever try to dictate to China then China would be as antagonistic toward the Soviet Union as she is now toward America. I am convinced that if Russia had tried to do in North Korea what we did in South Korea, then Russia would be as hated by the Korean masses as is our own United States."

HONOLULU RECORD, January 4, 1951:

Denotes column to condemning the recognition of Franco regime in Spain by sending an American Ambassador.

"It is, of course, not surprising that we are ready to take FRANCO back into the family circle. After all, many of those in policy-making positions in Washington have pretty much the same outlook. Under the pretext of 'downing Communism', they have launched a program of repressing civil rights, of isolating and liquidating our traditional liberties one by one, all of which is but the first step toward the terror of wholesale murder and the brutalizing of an entire nation.

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"This rotten business of hugging FRANCO to the family bosom is further evidence of what many have been saying. No matter how vile, how bloody the hands,

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how brutal the actions, if a government says it is anti-Communist it can get our full support."

HONOLULU RECORD, January 11, 1951:

"Let us look again at the Korean situation. We sent men and munitions (later getting U. N. Sanction) several thousand miles across the Pacific, next door, almost, to a nation who was the chief enemy in a cold war. After intervening in the Korean civil war, we not only chased the North Koreans back across the 38th Parallel, but ignored the pleas of powers friendly to the U. S. and sent armed forces almost to the Manchurian border. Our aim was a United Korea - but under the discredited Rhee government."

HONOLULU RECORD, January 25, 1951:

"We just must have a war; we are so determined that we plan to give a war, by golly, even if nobody comes but ourselves."

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"So far as I can determine, we are the only nation worrying about a war with Russia. According to New York Times correspondents in Moscow, the Russians themselves are not worrying about a war with us for now and more civilian goods are being made available and new factories for civilian production are being built in the Soviet Union at a time when we are curbing peacetime production and expanding facilities and building new factories to make more instruments of war."

HONOLULU RECORD, February 1, 1951:

"There is one week each year that I regret and that is Negro History Week. I regret it because in a

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democracy we are forced to set aside a special period to make up America to the achievements and human dignity of a tenth of its population ---

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"This all-too prevalent belief that the Negro is 'naturally inferior' helps keep the common people divided, when they should be working together to better their conditions. It is a handicap that organized labor has not yet been able to overcome in Dixie where wages are pitifully low because millions of white and black working people fight each other instead of uniting in the common cause."

HONOLULU RECORD, February 8, 1951:

"I have learned that the treatment of Negroes is the basis for treatment of Orientals and other groups; I know that the doctrine of White Supremacy forces the U. S. to support what Asia and Africa call the 'white imperialism' of Western Europe and to block the attempts of Colonial peoples to win independence; I know further that there will be no lasting peace in the world so long as there is a belief in superior and inferior peoples."

HONOLULU RECORD, February 15, 1951:

In speaking of the indictment of Dr. W. E. B. DuBOIS and the Peace Information Center, he says:

"Thus we have the sorry spectacle of a nation which is trying to force its brand of democracy down the throats of other countries, indicting a Negro leader for demanding peace and equal rights while permitting the mass execution of seven citizens purely because they had black skins in a land of White Supremacy. -----"

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HONOLULU RECORD, February 22, 1951:

"What frightens and angers White America is the hard, true fact that PAUL ROBESON has the largest following of any U. S. Negro. When he hits at discrimination and Jim Crow, he speaks the mind of the overwhelming majority of nearly 15,000,000 less articulate Negroes. -----."

HONOLULU RECORD, March 1, 1951:

"Anyone who cares to use his brain knows by now that it is not merely Communists that the Un-American Committee is after, but anybody who dares to criticize the status quo or raise his voice in behalf of the badly treated. -----"

"But most important, it shows that the Committee is not after Communists but is gunning for anybody who has the courage to consistently speak out against White Supremacy and to support human dignity."

HONOLULU RECORD, March 8, 1951:

"Those who believe the world is divided strictly along the hard line of Communism and anti-Communism are engaging in both dangerous and wishful thinking. The vast majority of the world is not interested in Communism as such, but in ending what is widely known as 'white imperialism'. -----"

"You will notice that the Western European Nations and our own country, together with South Africa and Australia, are the backbone of the anti-Communist front. You will note also that these are the nations accused of white imperialism, white supremacy or colonialism."



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"This point is not lost upon India, Pakistan, the Arab states and the other colored people of Asia and Africa. You may be sure that it has been pointed out to these people that the countries of Eastern Europe and Russia, described as the Soviet bloc, have not been accused of white imperialism, white supremacy or colonialism.

"That is why it is both dangerous and wishful thinking to consider the world divided strictly along the hard line of Communism and anti-Communism, when most of the planets' inhabitants are instead, trying to find some means of ending colonialism and racism."

HONOLULU RECORD, March 22, 1951:

"Back in 1938, an organization known as the League of American Writers issued a small paper backed book titled 'Writers Take Sides'. It contained the opinions of 418 American authors on the questions: Are you for or are you against Franco and fascism? Are you for, or are you against the legal government and the people of Republican Spain?

"Although the League of American Writers folded and passed from the scene somewhere around the start of World War II, its corpse was exhumed and placed on the subversive list by Attorney General TOM CLARK following the issuance of the President's loyalty order. Those authors who contributed statements against Franco and in favor of the Loyalists have been listed in the files of the House Un-American Committee. I, of course, was one of those authors. That is not surprising."

HONOLULU RECORD, April 12, 1951:

"I offer this column as added proof that I am (as some people assert) guilty of 'fomenting race hate', for what I am going to say has to do with the color

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line and its effect upon the earning power of Americans.

"You see, if you are a good little boy and keep quiet about discrimination and racism, you get a pat on the head and a few crumbs thrown you by the White Supremacists. But if you point out evidence of prejudice and insist on their correction then you become a 'dangerous agitator' and a formentor of race hate! That's the name - calling technique used in Georgia or Hawaii."

HONOLULU RECORD, April 19, 1951:

"I have often pointed out that the treatment of Negroes by America sets the pattern for the treatment of other minority groups, and that the peoples of other countries watch anti-Negro bias as evidence of how different our democracy is in practice from our preachments."

HONOLULU RECORD, April 26, 1951:

"Boiled down, the Truman-MacArthur controversy seems to be over whether we should take off the wrap and have a full-scale war with China and Russia and any people who side with them, as MacArthur advocates, or whether we should merely fight a little today - a kind of warm-up, as it were for the big bout tomorrow, as Truman desires."

"I can see no basic differences between them, such as one wanting war and the other insisting on peace. Instead all the noise is over the matter of timing."

- P E N D I N G -